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CPW Report No. 61-A -- COMMUNIST CHINA

(Feb. 9 - 15, 1953)

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SUMMARY

Celebration of the Sino-Soviet Friendship Pact's 3d anniversary, given no previous buildup, is linked with Spring Festival activities, apparently with the idea of channeling holiday enthusiasm into propaganda efforts benefiting the Russian masters. Soviet diplomats and advisers play a big part, with the propaganda stressing Russian superiority, China's debt to the USSR, and reasons for the relatively small flow of Chinese culture to the USSR under a so-called mutual agreement. Sino-Soviet friendship is described as "Lenin's and Stalin's foreign policy." Claims that Chinese lily seeds thousands of years old germinated in Soviet laboratories may have been intended as a symbol to show the relationship between the two cultures, but little is done to exploit the story.

The USSR is credited with "friendly support" of RAAK, but the projected RAAK drive still appears as little more than a basis for expansive promises to the CPV. More tangible is the dispatch of Chinese railway workers to aid with Korean transportation problems. Peasants urged to practice preferential treatment are accused of "leaving everything to the Government," while the extent of the war victim problem is gaged by reports that 250 teams visited wounded soldiers in Peking hospitals alone.

Official concern over the Southeastern coastal area is revealed in admission at the CPPCC that many Chinese from Taiwan have landed in Fukien, though it is claimed they were refugees. Armed Forces in the area receive special attention, including instructions to "improve relations" with the local populace. Special public safety precautions for the Spring Festival are designed to guard against fire and theft, but also against "other public commotions."

SSF Pact celebrations receive special emphasis in Sinkiang, where Russian exploitation of natural resources is said to have "worked out smoothly." Of possible significance is the information that the PLA in Sinkiang has engaged in widespread road building, partly "to strengthen the liberation of Tibet," and the promise made by the Tibetan CPPCC delegate to "help drive out imperialistic aggressors."

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